

Filed for intro on 03/05/97

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 89
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the life of Kathy Woodall and to express condolences to her family and colleagues.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary professionals who have dedicated their careers and their lives to nurturing and developing this state's most precious natural resource: our children; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Woodall, who distinguished herself both as a gifted teacher and an articulate advocate for her fellow educators, was most assuredly one such estimable citizen deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Woodall served with acumen and integrity as the 113th president of the Tennessee Education Association but was tragically stricken and died during the course of her term; and

WHEREAS, she was truly a knowledgeable and adept veteran of the classroom; her entire excellent teaching career of twenty-nine years being spent in Nashville schools; and

WHEREAS, prior to taking a leave of absence to serve as TEA president, Ms. Woodall was engaged in her usual sterling performance as a counselor at Nashville's Gra-Mar Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable lady was truly a product of public education as her mother taught in Tennessee's public schools for thirty-seven years; and

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WHEREAS, that education is a central and unifying theme in her family's life was evidenced by the fact that Kathy Woodall's husband, Charles, is also a teacher in the Metro Nashville school system and their sons, Charly and Andrew are both education majors at Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional who was both a role model for her students and mentor to her fellow teachers, Ms. Woodall served adroitly in almost every capacity in her local association, including service as President of the Metro Nashville Education Association; and

WHEREAS, on the state level, she served on the TEA Board of Directors as well as chairing several TEA committees; she also served as Vice President of TEA immediately prior to her election to the presidency; and

WHEREAS, as TEA President, Kathy Woodall served as a chairperson of the Tennessee Political Action Committee for Education and as Tennessee's representative on the NEA-PAC Council; and

WHEREAS, because she realized that citizenship entails many responsibilities as well as privileges, civic and political activities were also an important part of Ms. Woodall's life; and

WHEREAS, she was a member of the Democratic Women's Club, the PTA and the Madison Little League Board, in addition to being a member of Phi Delta Kappa and Alpha Delta Kappa; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Woodall was, and her family continues to be, active members of City Road Chapel United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, she received her bachelor of science degree from Austin Peay State University and her master of science degree from Tennessee State University; she also performed post-graduate studies at Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, throughout her superlative career, Kathy Woodall worked tirelessly and with purpose and commitment for the improvement of the teaching profession and public education in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in her role as TEA president, she continued this proud legacy of effective and compassionate public service, and, indeed, can be truly said to have died in the service of her profession and her state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commemorate the life of Kathy Woodall, expressed both in her meritorious service as President of the Tennessee Education Association, and in her devotion to her profession and to her commitment to public education, her students and her fellow teachers, and extend our sincerest condolences to her colleagues, her students and her family on their untimely loss.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.